

Possible Classroom Accommodations For Specific Difficulties

*Adapted from "How to Get the Best Education For Your Chronically or Seriously Ill Child"
Phoenix Children's Hospital*

Here are some possible classroom accommodations if your child or student has difficulties with:

Attention

- ☐ Seat student near teacher
- ☐ Stand near student when giving directions or presenting lessons
- ☐ Increase distance between desks
- ☐ Seat student near positive role model
- ☐ Avoid seating near high traffic areas (windows, doors, pathways)
- ☐ Cue student to stay on task (private signals)
- ☐ Allow extra time to complete work
- ☐ Shorten assignments
- ☐ Break long assignments into smaller parts
- ☐ Pair written instructions with oral instructions
- ☐ Provide peer assistance with note-taking
- ☐ Look at student when talking
- ☐ Provide written outline of lesson
- ☐ Anticipate problems and use preventative strategies

Impulsiveness

- ☐ Use time out procedure for misbehavior
- ☐ Supervise closely during transition times
- ☐ Attend to positive behavior with praise
- ☐ Seat near good role model
- ☐ Set up behavior contract
- ☐ Implement behavior management system
- ☐ Implement home/school token system
- ☐ Anticipate problems and use preventative strategies

Motor Activity

- ☐ Allow student to stand at times while working
- ☐ Provide short breaks between assignments
- ☐ Supervise closely during transition times
- ☐ Remind student to check over work
- ☐ Use checklist for work assignments
- ☐ Give extra time to complete work
- ☐ Anticipate problems and use preventative strategies

Organization and Planning

- ☐ Provide student with an assignment notebook
- ☐ Check homework daily
- ☐ Progress reports sent home daily/weekly
- ☐ Give assignments one at a time

- ☐ Request parent help at home with organizing
- ☐ Provide "rules" for getting organized
- ☐ Notebook with dividers/folders for work
- ☐ Allow student to have extra set of books at home
- ☐ Write main points of lesson on board
- ☐ Use of visual aids in lesson presentation

Compliance

- ☐ Praise compliant behavior
- ☐ Post class expectations in visible location
- ☐ Provide immediate feedback about behavior
- ☐ Supervise closely during transition times
- ☐ Set up behavior contract
- ☐ Implement behavior management system
- ☐ Instruct student in self-monitoring

Mood

- ☐ Provide reassurance and encouragement
- ☐ Compliment positive behavior and work
- ☐ Review instructions on new assignments to make sure student comprehends
- ☐ Look for opportunities for student to display leadership role in class
- ☐ Focus on student's talents/achievements
- ☐ Send positive notes home
- ☐ Make time to talk alone with student
- ☐ Look for signs of stress build up and provide encouragement/reduce work load
- ☐ Teach anger management techniques
- ☐ Give student choices
- ☐ Use consistent consequences

Socialization

- ☐ Praise appropriate social behavior
- ☐ Monitor social interactions to gain insight of student's behavior with others
- ☐ Set up social behavior goals with student – implement reward program
- ☐ Prompt appropriate social behavior verbally using private signals
- ☐ Avoid competitive activities
- ☐ Encourage cooperative learning tasks
- ☐ Social skills training

This article was adapted from the publication called, "How to Get the Best Education For Your Chronically or Seriously Ill Child" by Phoenix Children's Hospital. Permission to rekey and use content was granted to the Arizona Department of Education, Parent Information Network via phone call by Phoenix Children's Hospital on 5/7/03 by Lori Schmidt, PCH Communications.